

Residents of Bexley considering housing

Bexley students and deans exchange letters about future housing options

By Kath Xu
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Last Tuesday, Dean for Student Life Chris Colombo announced that Bexley Hall would be closed for up to three years for renovations, displacing all residents at the end of this semester. On Friday, the Bexley community collectively voiced their concerns and wishes in a letter addressed to Chancellor Eric Grimson PhD '80 and Dean Colombo, signed by over 70 students and GRTs. Grimson and Colombo responded to the letter yesterday afternoon. In the meantime, Bexley residents were given the option of entering a housing lottery, which closed yesterday at 5 p.m., if they wanted to remain in on-campus housing next year.

Bexley Hall Letter

In their letter, the Bexley residents emphasized their desire to remain together next year and to preserve Bexley culture. To this end, they requested that Grimson and Colombo look into various housing options large enough to accommodate 40 to 60 students. The residents mentioned the dorm block system, in which groups

of Bexley students would live together at other MIT dorms, as their least popular choice.

"We not only believe that Bexley's culture should be prized and saved, but similarly, that all the dorms have a unique personality, without which MIT would be a different place," said the Bexley letter. "We do not feel that MIT should have to lose or displace any other communities."

Instead, Bexley students indicated a strong preference for on-campus temporary housing or off-campus ILG-like (Independent Living Group) housing. The letter listed several possible locations for these, such as an already-residential portion of 100 Memorial Drive, or the Westgate Parking Lot at the west end of Briggs Field. The residents pointed out that other colleges have housed their students in temporary housing in similar situations in the past.

In addition, the residents asked for access to the engineering reports which first deemed Bexley uninhabitable. The letter asked MIT to form a council comprised of faculty, administrators, students, and engineers to

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Community picnic for outgoing Dean Daniel Hastings



Outgoing Dean for Undergraduate Education Daniel E. Hastings PhD '80 and current Dean for Graduate Education Christine Ortiz at the picnic held in Dean Hastings' honor on Monday afternoon.

Swartz judge sides with MIT on release of case evidence

Sides with MIT, JSTOR to allow certain redactions

By Joanna Kao
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

U.S. District Judge Nathaniel M. Gorton ordered yesterday that some confidentiality restrictions be removed from evidence MIT had produced for the case against Aaron Swartz, which was dropped after his suicide in January. This is the first order since Swartz's lawyers' motion on March 15, which would have made information collected for the trial public. The judge agreed with MIT's

and JSTOR's March 29 responses, asking that information including the names of employees be redacted.

Prior to the order, Swartz's lawyers, JSTOR, MIT, and the federal government all agreed that some information contained in the court documents could be made public, which Gordon upheld. Elliot R. Peters, Swartz's lawyer, also asked for identifying and network information to be disclosed, but that request

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International students will experience new inspections

MIT students warned by ISO about new protocol

By Sara Hess
STAFF REPORTER

Last Wednesday, international students received an email from Danielle Guichard-Ashbrook, director and associate dean of the International Students Office, warning them to be prepared for a new and potentially time-consuming border inspection process when re-entering the U.S. Guichard-Ashbrook stated that the new inspection process is a "direct response" to the Boston Marathon bombings.

On May 2, a senior official at U.S. Customs and Border Protection circulated a memo ordering border agents to verify that all international students entering the United States are traveling on a valid student visa. The order comes in response to the discovery that a Kazakh student accused of hiding evidence on behalf of the younger Boston bombing suspect, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, entered the U.S. on an invalid student

visa in January.

At present, international students' comings and goings are monitored by the Student Exchange and Visitor Information System (SEVIS), an Internet-based system operated by the Department of Homeland Security. Previously, student visas were only verified by SEVIS if a student entering the country was selected for a second inspection by border agents. According to Guichard-Ashbrook's email, going forward secondary inspections will be required for all foreign students entering the U.S. It is unclear how this additional inspection may affect wait times at the border but the ISO has warned students to expect delays.

Emily Eros, a Canadian and first year Master's student in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning (Course 11), reacted to the news. "The news struck me as an unsurprising and ineffective reaction to

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FANDOM

— AT MIT —

We ask MIT what's on its screens. Explore the Institute's obsessions inside.

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IN SHORT

The percentage of admitted freshman choosing to enroll at MIT will be about 72 to 73 percent. Mikey Yang '05, Associate Director of Admissions, posted the news in a blog post on Monday. This is the highest ever yield for MIT, preceded by 70, 65, and 64 percent in the three previous years, respectively. Twenty transfers were also accepted. No students will be accepted from the wait list. This is only the second time in the past

eight years that MIT has not been able to accept students from its wait list. Yang said that they had planned to accept from the wait list before seeing enrollment results.

Remember to return borrowed art to the List Visual Arts Center. Going on through the end of the week.

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

END OF SEMESTER

This is *The Tech's* last issue of the semester. We will be publishing on Commencement, and once a month during the summer.

A SOLUTION TO OVERCROWDING

Freshmen should be allowed to live in Greek houses next year. **OPINION, p. 4**

WHAT BEXLEY MEANS

Residents write in about what Bexley means to them. **LETTERS, p. 5**



MIT DANCETROUPE #DTMF

Dancetroupe's spring show featuring a variety of styles ran through Sunday. **PHOTO, p. 23**

FOSTERING NEW IDENTITIES

Burton-Conner's housemaster welcomes its future residents. **OPINION, p. 5**

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Cyprus gets first tranche of bailout funds

By Liz Alderman
THE NEW YORK TIMES

PARIS — After striking an unprecedented deal in March to make many bank depositors help pay for an international bailout, Cyprus on Monday received 2 billion euros, the first installment of that money, aimed at buttressing the economy after the near-collapse of its banking sector.

European officials say the release of the funds, equivalent to \$2.6 billion, was recently approved by a working group of the 17 eurozone finance ministers, who gathered Monday evening in Brussels for their regular monthly meeting. Cypriot efforts to stabilize the economy may be on the agenda. A second allocation of up to 1 billion euros will be transferred by June 30, officials said.

That session was a prelude to the planned meeting of all 27 European Union finance ministers in Brussels on Tuesday, where the focus is expected to be on proceeding with a European banking union that could stabilize the European

financial system and avoid future debacles like Cyprus. Officials on Tuesday were to consider a single set of rules for dealing with failing banks throughout Europe, as well as discuss continuing efforts to curb tax havens.

The thorniest issue revolves around whether some depositors in any other European country should be made to suffer losses if their banks require an international rescue, as happened in Cyprus in an unprecedented and still controversial provision for a eurozone bailout.

In exchange for a 10 billion-euro emergency aid package, Cyprus in March agreed to EU demands to effectively confiscate up to 60 percent of any depositor’s holdings above 100,000 euros held in two of the country’s largest banks, Bank of Cyprus and Laiki Bank. At the same time, Laiki Bank was forced to fold, merging into Bank of Cyprus.

On Tuesday in Brussels, part of the debate will involve where depositors should be placed in the hierarchy of creditors in the future rules on shutting down failing

banks. The main focus is what to do with depositors holding more than 100,000 euros. Some countries want all EU members to have the same rules, while others want the flexibility to decide where savers should be in the hierarchy.

The president of the European Central Bank, Mario Draghi, said at his recent monthly news conference that ordinary depositors should be hit only after people who took risks by buying bonds in banks were forced to take losses. “If it can be avoided,” he said, “uninsured depositors should not be touched.”

In Cyprus, the issue came to a head after Germany and some other EU countries insisted on finding a new way to pay for a bailout of troubled Cypriot banks, which held large deposits from wealthy Russians. Some of the money was suspected of having questionable origins, meaning it would be hard for Berlin to justify using German taxpayer funds to clean up Cyprus’ mess. In the end, EU and Cypriot officials agreed that wealthy depositors would effectively have to help foot the cleanup bill.

IRS focus on conservatives gives GOP issue to seize on

By Jonathan Weisman
and Matthew L. Wald
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service’s special scrutiny of small-government groups applying for tax-exempt status went beyond keyword hunts for organizations with “Tea Party” or “Patriot” in their names, to a more overtly ideological search for applicants seeking to “make America a better place to live” or “criticize how the country is being run,” according to part of a draft audit by the inspector general that has been given to Capitol Hill.

The head of the division on tax-exempt organizations, Lois Lerner, was briefed on the effort in June 2011, seemingly contradicting her assertion on Friday that she learned of the effort from the news reports. But the audit shows that she seemed to work hard to rein in the focus on conservatives and change it to a look at any political advocacy group of any stripe seeking tax exemptions.

The new information will only add to the criticism that has emerged since Lerner apologized to Tea Party and other conservative groups on Friday for unwarranted scrutiny. The full audit by the Treasury Department’s inspector general for tax administration is set to be released this week.

House Republicans have vowed to begin their own hearings and investigations. And Republicans fanned out on the political talk shows on Sunday to express outrage that is only likely to grow.

Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine and a prominent moderate, said on CNN that the singling out of conservative groups was “absolutely chilling.”

Since last year’s elections, Republicans in Congress have struggled for traction on their legislative efforts, torn between conservatives who drove the agenda after their 2010 landslide and new voices counseling a shift in course to reflect President Barack Obama’s reelection and the loss of Republican

seats in the House and the Senate.

For the first time since 2011, Democrats have been dictating Washington’s political agenda, including tax increases on the rich, gun control and an overhaul of immigration laws.

But the accusations of IRS abuse are sure to fuel an effort that appears to be uniting dispirited Republicans and their conservative political base: investigating Obama and his administration. Republicans are pushing a portrayal of an administration overreaching its authority and punishing its enemies.

“The bottom line is they used keywords to go after conservatives,” Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., the chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, said Sunday on the NBC News program “Meet the Press.” He requested the inspector general’s audit along with another Republican, Rep. Jim Jordan of Ohio. As an audit, it will not find blame or refer anyone for criminal prosecution.

Firms brace for new European data privacy law

By Kevin J. O’Brien
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BERLIN — The effort in Europe to adopt the world’s strongest data protection law has drawn the attention of dozens of lobbyists from U.S. technology and advertising companies.

Facebook, Apple, Google, Amazon and IBM, individually and through industry groups, have all sought to actively participate in a legislative process that could give half a billion consumers the right to withhold basic personal details while using the Web, putting a major crimp in the financial model that makes those business run.

On Monday, their European counterparts showed up in force at a conference in Berlin to discuss the potential law, which is expected to come to a vote sometime next year. Representatives from European Aeronautic Defence & Space, BMW, Daimler and Rovio

Entertainment, the creator of mobile apps like Angry Birds, filled a hotel meeting room and tried to figure out how new rules would affect them.

Even nontech companies like UBS, the Swiss bank, were among the 70 attendees at the Pullman Hotel Scheizerhof near the Tiergarten central park, as the new regulations are expected to affect virtually every type of business.

The effort to create strict new online privacy protections in Europe is motivated by a desire to rein in the data use of social media companies like Google and Facebook, said Ian Walden, a professor of information and communications law at the University of London and a speaker at the conference.

“But the problem is this proposal is going to create a whole new layer of regulation for the vast majority of businesses that have nothing to do with social media,”

he said. “They are going to see their compliance loads increase greatly with very little benefit.”

The measures would prohibit the use of a range of standard Web tracking and profiling practices that companies use to produce targeted advertising, unless consumers gave their explicit prior consent. The bill would also grant European consumers a fundamental new right: data portability, or the right to easily transfer an individual’s posts, photographs and video from one online service site to another.

The measures, as well as the creation of an EU-wide data privacy regulator, were originally proposed last year by Viviane Reding, the European justice commissioner.

They are now contained in a bill sponsored by Jan Philipp Albrecht, a member of the European Parliament from Hanover. But the fate of the bill, meant to revise an 18-year-old statute, remains murky.

University presidents are prospering, study finds

In the 2011-12 fiscal year, the nation’s highest paid public university president was Graham B. Spanier, the president of Pennsylvania State University, who was forced out in November 2011 over his handling of a child sex abuse scandal involving a football coach.

According to the annual compensation report by The Chronicle of Higher Education, Spanier was paid \$2.9 million in 2011-12, including \$1.2 million in severance pay and \$1.2 million in deferred compensation.

“The fact that Graham Spanier turns out to be the highest paid president in the country says something about the nature of compensation packages for people who leave under a cloud,” said Jack Stripling, the Chronicle reporter who worked on the survey. “Severance agreements are often very lucrative.”

Three other public university presidents also had compensation topping \$1 million: Jay Gogue of Auburn University, at \$2,542,865; E. Gordon Gee of Ohio State University, at \$1,899,420; and Alan G. Merten of George Mason University, at \$1,869,369. Merten retired from George Mason in June after 16 years as president.

—Tamar Lewin, *The New York Times*

Ex-hedge fund manager sentenced to more than 6 years

NEW YORK — During the sentencing of the former hedge fund manager Anthony Chiasson on Monday, Judge Richard J. Sullivan marveled at his prodigious wealth, ticking off the annual income listed on his tax returns. “\$16 million, \$10 million, \$23 million,” he said.

“It’s hard to imagine why someone would risk all that to engage in a crime like this,” the judge said.

The crime is insider trading, and Sullivan handed down one of the stiffest sentences yet in the government’s vast campaign to root out wrongdoing on Wall Street trading floors. He sentenced Chiasson, a founder of Level Global Investors, to 6 1/2 years in prison after a jury found him guilty in December of illegally trading technology stocks.

“This kind of conduct can’t go unpunished,” Sullivan of U.S. District Court in Manhattan said.

Chiasson, 39, who did not address the court, was ordered to pay a \$5 million fine and forfeit illegally obtained proceeds of as much as \$2 million. He must report to the Federal Bureau of Prisons in 90 days.

—Peter Lattman, *The New York Times*

Questions about detective are also asked about prosecutors

NEW YORK — As the Brooklyn district attorney’s office pledged a complete review of about 50 murder cases after questions arose regarding the conduct of the detective assigned to them, renewed scrutiny has also focused on the role prosecutors play in what turn out to be wrongful convictions and whether they should be held responsible when justice goes awry.

Prosecutors working for the Brooklyn district attorney, Charles J. Hynes, recently found that flawed police work by the detective, Louis Scarcella, and a partner led to the conviction of a man in the 1990 killing of a Brooklyn rabbi. A judge recently ordered the release of the man, David Ranta, after he spent 23 years in prison for the rabbi’s murder.

On Sunday, Jeffrey Deskovic, who served 16 years behind bars for the rape and murder of a woman in Westchester County that he did not commit, vowed that a foundation he established would conduct its own review of Scarcella’s work, to find out if anyone else had been wrongfully convicted.

“Considering that Scarcella was working in tandem with the prosecutors, relying on the DA to do the investigation is like asking the fox to guard the henhouse, particularly when exposing the cases would mean exposing prosecutorial complicity,” Deskovic said.

At least two protests have been planned this week against Hynes, who is in the midst of a primary campaign for a seventh term. On Tuesday, relatives and friends of inmates seeking to have their convictions overturned are planning a rally outside CBS to protest the network’s decision to offer Hynes a reality television show.

—Frances Robles, *The New York Times*

Groups call for deportation suspension for immigrants

Labor, Latino and immigrant advocate groups called on President Barack Obama on Monday to suspend deportations of illegal immigrants who could be eligible for a pathway to citizenship under a bipartisan bill to overhaul the immigration system that is under consideration in the Senate.

Among the organizations demanding that the White House halt most removals were the AFL-CIO, the country’s largest federation of labor unions; the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, or MALDEF, a Latino civil rights group; the National Day Laborer Organizing Network; and United We Dream, a national group representing young illegal immigrants. They said Obama should act immediately, even before Congress votes on the bill.

They based their demand on an enthusiastically upbeat analysis of the bill’s prospects for passage.

“Immigration reform has unstoppable momentum,” said Ana Avendano, director of immigration for the AFL-CIO. “For the AFL, this bill is not fragile. It is supported by a broad coalition.”

While Latino and labor groups have long expressed anger at Obama over the more than 1.6 million deportations that have taken place under his administration, the support of the AFL-CIO for a suspension of deportations added new clout to their demands.

The groups, which generally support the Senate bill, said that thousands of immigrants who would most likely gain legal status under its terms were being expelled and separated from their families in the United States while Congress deliberates.

“It’s a simple matter of fairness and justice,” said Thomas A. Saenz, president of MALDEF. “It makes no sense to deport those who would be eligible for that relief.”

—Julia Preston, *The New York Times*

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On the surface, this is a win-win arrangement. Dormitory residents experience less overcrowding. Freshmen can choose to live where they want. And the physical dormi-

Saul Wilson is a member of the Class of 2014.



A caption in the May 7, 2013 issue misidentified the subject. The caption should read "Salih J. Wakil describes his path in biological research in his Lifetime Achievement acceptance speech at the 2013 MIT Arab Students Organization Science and Technology Achievement Awards banquet."

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A new community, a new experience

For Bexlians, moving to another dorm, like Burton-Conner, may help foster new identities

By Anne EC McCants

There has understandably been a great deal of anxiety on campus about how best to relocate the hundred or so displaced Bexley residents who will need to be housed in a different place come fall than everyone had been expecting. We would like to find a solution that is 'fair,' but of course there is no obvious fix that is fair to everyone. Relocating a number of students from a place they had settled themselves, into the midst of other people who had also already settled themselves, poses very real challenges.

'Putting people together unexpectedly can be the source of great human strife; but it can also be the root of really great things.'

Putting people together unexpectedly can be the source of great human strife; but it can also be the root of really great things. Part of

my scholarly focus is in an area called ‘macro-historical dynamics’ — the study of large social processes that unfold over long periods of time and usually across large areas of space. Investigation into the rise and spread of communicable disease around the globe shows that they have emerged in pockets of human density and follow patterns of human movement. But density and exchange are also responsible for the acceleration of innovation and technical change. In a seminal article published in the *QJE* (1993) while he was in the Economics Dept. at MIT, Michael Kramer documents the strong association between population growth and the rapidity of technological advance. At the margins more crowded dorms will result in some inconveniences, certainly, but also new social opportunities, with benefits unknown.

Many of us form strong identities to a particular place, or a particular community. But we also move between communities. Indeed, the process of coming to MIT in the first place is surely one such major move. Our experiences here are not diminished by virtue of the fact that we come from somewhere else. Indeed, in many respects they

are enhanced by that fact. As a graduate student in the late 1980s, I had the privilege of studying under the great economic historian Carlo Cipolla. He spent every fall teaching at Berkeley and every spring in his na-

**Whoever you are, you
are welcome in Burton-
Conner.**

tive Italy. He favorite way to begin a course was to tell his students that, "The past is a foreign country; they do things differently there." This was perhaps one of the most formative ideas for me on my path to becoming a serious historian. I still have the yellow legal pad in which I took lecture notes the first time I TA'ed for him, and sure enough when I went back and looked, there is that phrase in my hasty scrawl with double asterisks punctuating both ends of it. Carlo was a bridge for all of his students, from two continents of course in that roundtrip migration he made every year, but also a bridge across time. He was my conduit into the past.

Now I realize that geographically Bexley is in no way as far from other MIT living spaces as either Italy is from Northern California, or the present is from the Middle Ages. But for the students who are experiencing this migration, the distance in space and cultural setting is real enough. And the opportunities for bridging difference are likewise there. I write this not yet knowing which, or even how many, Bexley residents will move into dorms such as the one I am privileged to serve as a housemaster, Burton-Conner. But I do want to say to you, whoever you are, that you are most welcome in Burton-Conner. Hopefully you will find things to like about us, just the way we already are; and we will find the same about you. But I also hope that this unplanned happenstance helps us both to change in constructive ways, to become something that might not have been possible unless we had come together. I'm looking forward to the adventure into the future — also a foreign country where let's hope we really will do at least a few things differently.

Anne EC McCants is the Housemaster of Burton-Conner.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What Bexley means to its resident community

Editor's Note: The Tech received numerous letters from Bexley residents after last week's announcement that Bexley would be closing for up to three years due to structural problems. Printed here is a representative subset of those letters.

Bexley is a living and breathing beast, constantly changing yet remaining the same. Bexley is a hundred years of visible history scrawled and splattered onto its insides. Bexley is irreverence and nonconformity. Bexley is a free space. Bexley is my closest friends in the world. Bexley is misfits. Bexley is a bunch of people with nothing in common, who realize that fact itself is what they have in common. Bexley is a place for everyone. Bexley is who I am. Bexley is home.

I cannot say that I chose to come to MIT because of Bexley specifically, but definitely for the general feel that MIT was different. Other colleges don't have a housing system like ours, where you have so much opportunity to actually choose a home, not just get allocated a random bed to sleep in. I am so grateful to have had these past two years in Bexley, even if my next two will be elsewhere. Bexley has shaped the person I have become today in so many ways it is impossible to even put into words. Bexley is truly the love of my life, and I am absolutely heartbroken to have to leave it.

Tilly A. Taylor '15

Even just the prospect of being split from this community makes me feel lost and alone. I don't think people understand what we mean to one another. Even my family doesn't really comprehend it. I don't think they want to understand that the love I feel for you might rival that which I hold for them; that I take pride in your past traditions and culture just as much as I take pride in my own heritage. You were what really excited me about MIT. Everyone says that they come here to study because you don't say no to MIT. To tell the truth, saying that if Bexley didn't exist, I wouldn't have come here would be an exaggeration, but there is no way I could have anticipated just how important you have become to me. I was more ecstatic about making my first "I Jerk Off" shirt, a symbol of the Bexley community, than I was about receiving my Brass Rat last week.

I was more ecstatic about making my first 'I Jerk Off' shirt than I was about receiving my Brass Rat.

I am a member of the MIT community. I love MIT. But my connection to MIT does not even come close to my connection to the Bexley. MIT would not be the same without Bexley. To be frank, I don't know if I could survive MIT without you. Each and every person in Bexley is his or her own unique individual. That's not to say that the rest of the MIT population is not unique or important. But not every person, let alone every undergrad, plays a crucial role in my life the

way that every single member of the Bexley community does. The thought that this community may be splintered makes my heart heavy; I feel as if I am trying to breathe with only one lung.

Please don't take these people away from me.

Noga Feinberg '15

By the end of CPW, I knew I wanted to live here. It was the sense of humor that attracted me — dark and bizarre, and the kind of humor you'll only find funny if you don't take yourself too seriously. This quality of Bexley — the capacity to not take itself too seriously — is a rare one at MIT, and it has kept me sane these past few years.

In Bexley, I have made some of the truest and closest friends I have. There is nowhere else on campus where I identify with the people I've met nearly as much as in Bexley. When I meet Bexley alumni, I see that they share qualities that I appreciate in the other people who live here — unpretentious creativity, wry humor, low tolerance for rules and bureaucracy, and delight in making a particularly colorful mess. These values are different from those held by MIT in general, which is why I am so grateful to this community for giving me space to stop acting and feel at home.

This is an ongoing culture, somehow preserved despite the steady four-year rotation of students. I'd guess underclassmen who share these qualities choose to live here because this is where they feel happy. Maybe the decades-long, spontaneously-recorded history stored in bright layers on the walls, with its cryptic messages of good times passed, provides some force for continuity.

These past few days I keep imagining if I'd arrived here to find a newly-renovated Bexley that didn't allow paint or cats or loud, spontaneous bluegrass trios in the hallway at 2 a.m. I'm not sure I would have made it through. I've had days when I'm fed up with MIT, sick of the pressure, and I sit down in the lounge and people I love walk in and start talking to me, making me laugh, and after an hour or so I've recovered a sense of perspective. The walls are an important outlet, too — I've spent dozens of hours putting paint on these walls, big bright creatures, landscapes and neighborhoods that probably wouldn't have made it through the approval process other paint-the-walls dorms require.

I'm terrified that after the renovation process is done, New Bexley will be deemed too shiny for the noise, color, and freedom it has housed for decades. I understand that the building needs repair. But I hope that its personality will be preserved, because there are always going to be kids here who, like me, really need this place.

Sophie L. Diehl '14

People that know me know that I am forever missing my home in West Virginia. I never thought that I would find a community that I loved and felt as comfortable in as that one, but I managed to find one in Bexley.

I feel lucky to have found a second home so similar to my first one. I have a place to live

ILLUSTRATION BY JUDY HSIANG

BH

"Bexley is a place for everyone. Bexley is who I am. Bexley is home."

where I am surrounded not just by my best friends but by poets, crossdressers, tropical boiz and a whole collection of other crazy, weird, inspiring people. I feel comfortable leaving my door open all day when I'm not home, so that the kitty Jenga can come and go as she pleases. I feel comfortable walking through the dorm in my pajamas to pick up packages and donuts from Besk. I feel comfortable getting hamtossed with my friends and romping around on Friday and Saturday nights, sometimes even Tuesday or Wednesday, but who cares. Bexley truly is my home. It is a place that is never quiet. It is full of life that only a family of 116 coed residents can bring. Everything about this place is full of that life — the endless murals on the walls, the blaring of buttrock on the nicer days Cambridge offers up, the groups of friends that gather in suites to eat and drink and get weird.

Knowing that I will not get to spend my senior year among the winding, painted suites that make up my home gives me that same sense of loss that caused me to cry the full ten hours from West Virginia to Boston on my first trip to college. I honestly don't know what next year is going to be like without a home to come back to everyday, and I'm not looking forward to it. I will be forever missing my home in Bexley.

Viva Bexxxley.

Andrea D. Nickerson '14

“Education is not so much knowledge as it is learning how to think.” —David Foster Wallace

Never have I come across, on campus or in all the walks of my own life, a greater or richer collective of humanism than the family I have found at Bexley Hall. Some have called us rule-breakers, or misfits, and with them I do not disagree, and it's a culture I would not trade for anything. You'll be hard pressed to find such a group of people whose personalities, ideas, and ideologies are so diverse and yet so respected by all. In a world where

most are happy to pick, say, who they are and who they stand with, Republican, Democrat, Christian, atheist, red, blue, cake, pie... and are so quick to conform ideas to create a strong voice, Bexley has been a haven where I can say that I don't stand with any group, I stand with the humans, I stand with Bexley. As Wallace says, when we choose to think, choose to listen to others, to be truly thoughtful and respectful about their beliefs and ideas, there is no need to agree, no need to be a party or a collective, and nowhere is that more apparent and more appreciated than Bexley Hall.

So, our walls aren't white, and they say things you might not agree with, but then, that's the point. What Bexley has shown itself to be is not a dorm, but a true family, and a true bastion of humanity. It has made me a better person every day that I have spent here, and the day that culture of acceptance and respect is extinguished will be among the most lamentable.

Daniel H. Lizardo '15

Buttrock used to play every night. At 9 p.m., sharp, Nazareth's "Hair of the Dog" would play on a loop 10 times or 15 times (who can remember this anymore?) unless someone had taken the initiative to vote for another song, and usually no one did. I lived on the courtyard freshman year, and so I was one of the lucky people, not counting the innocents on Mass Ave, blessed with this reliable musical interlude. Sometimes it was awful, I would fume silently to the dulcet tones of "now you're messin' with... a son of a bitch!" But mostly it was awesome. And now, I can't believe that Buttrock (which has since diversified and moved rooms and conformed a little more to the weather and people's habits) will cease to exist. Our noisy, shabby, often smelly, usually smoky home is now something to memorialize, since the walls weren't permanent enough. I love this place, and I'm going to miss it terribly.

Soraya I. Shehata '13

Released Swartz evidence will include redactions

Judge sided with MIT's recommendation that certain details be withheld from release

was denied. The order also says that Swartz's estate must allow MIT and JSTOR to review and redact all documents before making them public. Also, all parties must submit a joint proposed order — essentially an agreement between themselves — consistent with yesterday's opinion by May 27.

There has been much public and media interest in the case since Swartz's death. The House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform also began an investigation into the case in late January and has requested certain documents from the case.

The order says that since MIT and JSTOR are “cooperating with the Congressional inquiry into Mr. Swartz’s prosecution suggests that,

to the extent such redactions interfere with the comprehension of any documents, each can address those problems with the House Committee on a case-by-case basis.”

Swartz's lawyers filed a motion on March 15 requesting that evidence used in Swartz's trial be made publicly accessible, including many MIT documents. The motion requested in particular that the court not redact the names and official titles of all law enforcement personnel and employees of MIT and JS-TOR who appear in the evidence.

But in a letter to the MIT community on March 20, President L. Rafael Reif disagreed with the extent of information Swartz's lawyers wanted to release. MIT, JSTOR, and Swartz's lawyers reached agreement on some terms of lifting the protective order, such as redact-

ing social security numbers and birthdates, but not on the details of redactions. The government, JSTOR and Reif all sought to redact all names and identifying information of law enforcement and MIT and JSTOR personnel since "revealing the names of any of these individuals, even to Congress, might lead to some form of retaliation." Reif's letter also said that details about MIT's network vulnerabilities would also be redacted.

Yesterday's order noted incidents that supported MIT's request to redact certain names, citing the MIT gunman hoax on February 23, evidence of "incidents of harassment and retaliation" from MIT and JSTOR, and "threatening communication" received by a relative of a prosecuting attorney.

According to Reif's letter in

March, MIT planned to release MIT-related documents at the same time as releasing Hal Abelson PhD '73's report. It is possible that Swartz's lawyers or JSTOR will release those documents before the Abelson report is ready — yesterday's order did not say whether MIT would be the first to release the documents.

After Swartz's death, Abelson was tasked to analyze MIT's involvement in the case. In a letter to the community on January 22, Abelson wrote that he hoped the report could be ready "in a few weeks." In a letter to *The Tech* in this issue, Abelson wrote "Given the visibility of the Aaron Swartz case and the controversies surrounding it, it's important to get the report right and to take the necessary time and effort to do that. My plan is to give my report to President Reif this summer."

May 13, 2013

Letter to *The Tech* from Hal Abelson:

This is an update for the MIT community about the analysis President Reif asked me to lead last January on the events concerning MIT and Aaron Swartz. I'm preparing a report together with Institute Professor Emeritus Peter Diamond and Washington, DC attorney Andrew Grosso. We're being supported by Assistant Provost Doug Pfeiffer. The four of us have been working hard. Given the visibility of the Aaron Swartz case and the controversies surrounding it, it's important to get the report right and to take the necessary time and effort to do that. My plan is to give my report to President Reif this summer.

Letter to *The Tech* from L. Rafael Reif:

Professor Abelson has shared with me the letter that is published in this edition of *The Tech*. I write briefly to offer my thoughts on it.

From the time I asked Professor Abelson to conduct a thorough analysis of MIT's involvement in events that preceded Aaron Swartz's death in January, I have said that Professor Abelson must take whatever time he needs in order to complete his work, and I have given him the freedom to conduct his work as he sees fit. I am pleased to know that he is making good progress, and I look forward to receiving the report, sharing it with the public, and having a discussion in the fall within the MIT community about its implications.

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ISO warns students of border changes

Students to have more inspections

Border, from Page 1

the Boston bombings. The actions seem intended to show that the US is stepping up to prevent future attacks, but in reality, I doubt these measures will have any effect beyond making additional work for border agents and additional hassle for international students. We already have our documents examined, our retinas scanned, and our fingerprints taken each and every time we enter the country. Is an automatic secondary inspection really necessary? Will showing a self-printed course registration really step up security?"

In her email, Guichard-Ashbrook suggested international students travel with copies of their Spring 2013 and Fall 2013 class registrations to present to border agents as additional evidence of their student status.

Other students stated that they felt the change in the visa inspection process was a superfluous reaction to the bombings given that the Tsarnaev brothers, the primary suspects behind the Boston bombings, were not in the U.S. on student visas. Younger brother, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, was a natural-

ized U.S. citizen. His older brother, Tamerlan Tsarnaev, who died in a police shoot out several days after the bombings, held a green card and was therefore considered a permanent resident of the U.S.

International students should travel with copies of their Spring and Fall registrations.

Guichard-Ashbrook's email concludes with an apology to the international student body, "On behalf of the entire ISO staff, I want to let you know that we are so very sorry that you have to contend with these new, very strict requirements. International students in the U.S. are overwhelming compliant and law-abiding visitors to the U.S. through out their academic programs and beyond. These are challenging times for the U.S. as government wrestles with how to make our borders more secure, while at the same time making all of you feel welcomed and valued in the U.S."

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The timed, online-only auction will begin Saturday, May 11th and end Wednesday, May 22nd, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. Subject to all terms of sale.

Property Inspections: Two open house previews will be offered for property inspections on Saturday May 11th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Wednesday, May 15th from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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THURSDAY

(4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.) MIT Transportation Club End-of-the-Year BBQ — Kresge BBQ Pits

(8:00 p.m.) Roadkill Buffet: The "Roadkill Will Be Shut Down For Three Years" Show! — 6-120

FRIDAY

(5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.) Thai Students at MIT End-of-the-Year BBQ — Kresge BBQ Pit

(7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.) Anime; Brain? Reset! — 3-133

SATURDAY

(4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.) Tang Hall Egg Drop — W84-24

SUNDAY

(9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.) SWAPFEST — N4

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Bexley students consider future housing options

Bexley students ask for engineering reports in letter, prefer temporary housing as group

Bexley, from Page 1

oversee the new dormitory design. In order to keep their culture alive, Bexley students requested an on-campus space for resident use to maintain the visibility of Bexley to freshmen.

In their response to the Bexley letter, Grimson and Colombo stated that they were currently looking at the feasibility of a temporary housing option for a large group of Bexley residents, and that a Bexley Advisory Group comprised of Bexley residents, the housemasters, and campus leaders would be formed soon.

It remains unclear whether the students will be given access to the engineering reports.

Grimson wrote that they have “tentatively identified the Pritchett Dining Room in Walker Memorial as a community space for displaced Bexley residents.” However, he was less clear about whether the Bexley students would eventually be given access to the engineering reports. “We will give your request for ac-

cess to the reports our careful consideration once the administration and other facilities stakeholders have reviewed and understand the report’s contents,” wrote Grimson.

“We hope we can continue to offer its unique culture to future students,” the residents wrote. “Many of us cannot imagine MIT without Bexley; the friendship, support, and acceptance we have found here has been integral to our MIT experience and we would be devastated to see this community torn apart.”

To facilitate communication in these deliberations, Bexley has — elected seven representatives for the dorm.

Dorm housing accommodations

Since many MIT dorms had already selected rooms for residents next year, the announcement of Bexley’s closing forced dorms to have to re-evaluate what they had originally planned for in the fall. By Friday, each dorm had sent MIT Housing a list of rooms that Bexley residents could move into.

Several dorm housing chairs said that they tried to reserve as many blocks of rooms as possible for the incoming Bexley students,

so that they would be more comfortable living together. According to Grimson’s followup letter yesterday, displaced Bexley residents would continue to pay the same amount for housing in other dorms as they would have in Bexley, although they would still have to purchase a dining plan should they move into a dining dorm.

Grimson stated that they were currently looking at the feasibility of a temporary housing option for a large group, and that an advisory group would be formed.

“We offered Bexlians 16 spots on Burton 5, 10 on Burton 2, and 7 each on Conner 3 and Conner 4,” said Tom Roberts ’13, Burton-Conner’s rooming chair. “We are not sure if all of these spots will be needed, but we chose floors that had more openings than the others and, in some cases, had openings that were already geographically convenient. Some people on B2 and B5 were also kind enough to give their rooms up to make larger continuous blocs, which was really awesome.”

According to Tegan A. Hunter ’15, the housing chair for Next House, the dorm is offering Bexley students a block of rooms in the

east wing of the second floor. “We looked at the results of our housing lottery for the Fall, and determined that we had a grouping of 12 beds that we could offer to housing and didn’t need to move our residents around,” explained Hunter. “We also located other smaller groupings of rooms throughout Next House that could potentially be giv-

en to Bexley residents. I really wanted to try and find a group of rooms that we could offer, as it is important to try and keep as many groups of friends together as possible.”

Like several other MIT dorms, Next House had already been slated to increase its capacity next year by turning some doubles into triples. Hunter said that Next House could “easily” add 23 students, with another 13 possible if MIT Housing asked upperclassmen to move to generate more space.

While New House also offered a block for Bexley students, the housing chair explained that the unique admissions process of the cultural

houses complicated the process.

“We offered 1 room for each house, accommodating 10 Bexley residents in total throughout the entire building,” said Melody G. Liu ’16, the New House housing chair. “We also offered up a block of 10 rooms in Desmond (House 5) and a few rooms in some of the cultural houses, but we emphasized that we would take 10 rooms total throughout all of New House. If Bexley students would like to move into a cultural house, they would need to agree to the conditions of living in a cultural house.”

Senior House co-housing chair Laura Y. Zhang ’15 said that she sent Housing a list of around 22 rooms, or half of the second floor, that were available for current Bexley residents. “A lot of seniors were moving out anyway; it was going to be pretty empty in the fall,” she said. “I just hope for a surprising and wonderful outcome out of this mess of a situation.”

Resident responses

Some residents from other dorms have expressed sympathy toward the plight of Bexley students and plan to welcome them into their dorm’s culture next year.

“I have absolutely no concerns about Bexley residents moving into Next House,” said Hunter. “In discussions I’ve had with fellow Next House residents, all sympathize with the Bexley residents, and would welcome any additions to the Next House community with open arms.”

Other residents are less sure about the effect that an influx of Bexley students could have on their dorm culture.

“Speaking personally and not in my capacity as RAC (Rooming Assignment Chair), I side with many of the residents in wishing that more effort was being put into finding a solution that would keep everyone together, rather than this process that’s disruptive for everyone,” said Roberts. “On the other hand, I think it will have a positive impact on BC’s culture. Some people are hesitant about what it means for floor cultures to have that large of a group moving in at once, as well as having fewer freshmen next year, but most people are really supportive and understanding about the fact that, you know, people are losing their home and their community.”

According to a timeline provided to the housemasters of each dorm, lottery results will come out May 15 for Bexley students.

“I have been incredibly impressed in the manner that the MIT dorm community has come together to support Bexley during this challenging time,” said Hunter.

See related content for this article at tech.mit.edu/V133/N26/bexley.html for the letters between Bexley residents and members of the administration.

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FANDOM

It’s difficult to separate the concept of nerdiness from MIT. The Coop sells stickers that say Nerd Pride, our mascot is the beaver (nature’s engineer), and Conan O’Brien pokes fun at MIT’s nerdiness on his Twitter.

But is the Institute truly a nerdy place?

The Tech surveyed the undergraduate population of MIT to settle this question. 1402 students — 31 percent of the undergraduate body — responded.

76 percent of students surveyed identified their high school stereotype as “nerd,” but are they really? 47 percent of MIT has seen every episode of Star Wars. Only 8 percent watch anime, and 12 percent read comic books/manga, but the entire school (like much of the world) seems to adore Harry Potter.

76% of students identified as a nerd
10% as preps
8% as jocks

To limit the breadth of our special, we kept the scope of our survey to media related fandoms like books, television, movies, and video games. We excluded sports and music since both categories are enormous and could merit their own surveys.

We were interested in examining whether or not the stereotype of MIT as a nerd haven is true to life. In the following pages, you’ll find data from our survey, a spotlight of fandom-based groups at MIT, and an interview with a Comparative Media Studies lecturer about fandoms. Featured are members of our community who shed their Brass Rats to don costumes and become someone else — to cosplay. We spoke with a variety of students about their favorite things, and polled the average American using Mechanical Turk to reveal what their perceptions of MIT are for comparison.

So is MIT truly the home of the Nerdy? It’s up to you to see the data and decide for yourself! Please write to us with your thoughts at surveys@tech.mit.edu and may the Force be with you as you embark on the summer!

—*Jessica J. Pourian ’13 and Connor Kirschbaum ’13*
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By Jessica J. Pourian
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

30 percent of MIT students who responded to *The Tech*'s survey (427 people) have dressed up as a character from *Harry Potter*, *Firefly*, *Star Trek*, *Star Wars*, or *Lord of the Rings*. While many of this number are very likely casual fans who threw on a Gryffindor scarf to see the premiere of *The Deathly Hallows*, hidden within this statistic is a number of devoted MIT students who take costumes to the next level — cosplayers.

Participants in cosplay, which is short for "costume play," represent fictional characters or ideas through costumes and accessories. Cosplay



PAULA JACOBS
Paula Jacobs '13 as a gijinka Twilight Sparkle from *My Little Pony*.



PAULA JACOBS
Arianna E. McQuillen '15 as a gijinka Eevee at Anime Boston last year.



MICHAEL AHEARN
Michael J. Ahearn '13 as David Sprite from the series *Homestuck*.

is a popular art at conventions and festivals.

MIT has a fair share of cosplayers in its student body. They've cosplayed as everything from Harry Potter and Doctor Who (the 11th!) to a variety of Pokémon (Raichu, the Eeveelutions etc.) ,to anime (*Neon Genesis Evangelion* is a popular choice) and video game (*Team Fortress 2* and *Zelda* among others) characters. Some students have also dressed as superheroes (Marvel Universe) and characters from *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic* (Twilight Sparkle).

MIT-cosplay balance

How can you balance the extensive process of costume-making

with being a full-time student at MIT?

"It's difficult," laughed Michael Ahearn '13, who has cosplayed as a number of *Homestuck* characters as well as the protagonist of the Playstation 3 hit *Journey*. "Basically if I'm working on a cosplay and it's close to the deadline I almost perceive it as another due date along with my homework and stuff."

Victoria Vega '13, who has cosplayed as *Zelda* from *The Legend of Zelda* among other things, mentioned that part of her family's hesitation about her hobby stemmed from worry over schoolwork life balance. "They are all pretty adamant about me not sewing until I graduate because they want me to pass my classes," Vega said. But for the most part "as long as it doesn't interfere with [my] studies," it seems to be fine.

Vega's parents aren't the only ones who see cosplay as an odd use of their children's time.

"My parents see it as a time sink," said Helena Wang '15, whose favorite cosplay is *Zer0* from *Borderlands 2*, "But they bug me for pictures afterwards, so they're supportive because they know it's something I enjoy participating in."

"My parents were not incredibly supportive," Alyssa Waln '16 (who is *Ezio* from the *Assassin's Creed* games in the accompany photograph displayed here) said, "They thought this was a strange hobby for a kid to have."

But Alyssa's parents changed their mind pretty soon after college application season. A common question during MIT admissions interviews is what you do in your spare time, and Waln took the opportunity to discuss cosplay. After she received her acceptance letter Waln says she got an email from Chris Peterson in the admissions office. "He said I liked your cosplay video game stuff and I think you'll find a place at MIT," Waln remembers. "I showed that to my parents and they were ok with it," she laughed.

Ahearn was introduced to the idea of cosplaying by his girlfriend: "I was sort of leery of the concept as being an extreme introvert," he said, but a friend who was also into the hobby encouraged him. "It was clear a lot of fun things happened at cons. It sounded extremely scary, but also a lot of fun."

Where does MIT cosplay?

What's the most popular destination for your average MIT cosplayer? The local conventions are where most of them start — PAX East and Anime Boston, which are both held in Boston in the spring. Waln has ventured to Fanime in San Jose, McQuillen to Otakon in Baltimore, Wang to New York Comic-Con.

"Anime conventions are interesting because they are technically anime conventions but if you're in costume ... it's not limited to just anime. It's a lot more broad than the name would suggest," Waln said.

Intro to Cosplay

After being into anime for a while, Arianna McQuillen '15 discovered there is more to being a fan than just looking at artwork. "I thought [cosplay] was a promotional thing" at first, she said, "But then I realized it was people doing it in their free time."

Most MIT students who cosplay started with the hobby while they were in high school. They discovered it through the Internet, friends, or just expanded their love of *Hal-loween* into a full-time craft.

"Junior year sucked," recalls Waln. "I was really busy all the time,

Cosplay, Page 11

25% of MIT has dressed as a Harry Potter character

8% as a Star Trek or Star Wars character

Cosplay, from Page 10

While costumes aren't required for con attendance, once you cosplay once it's difficult to go back to normal attire, the cosplayers said.

"It feels kind of weird to be at one of these conventions and NOT be in costume," Brian Chan '02, an instructor at the MIT Hobby Shop, said.

Picking a character

With thousands of fictional characters to choose from, cosplayers tend to gravitate towards their favorite characters, and those who would be fun to act out.

"I choose from things I'm really invested in because that will probably transfer over to the costume," said Waln, who adored the *Assassin's Creed* games. "Doing costumes take a really long time, and you have to want to be making it."

"Cosplaying alone is awkward. Especially on the T. If you're by yourself, people start staring."

Wang also chooses her costumes based on how comfortable she feels playing a character for a long period of time.

"While I'd be able to pull off a Sailor Scout costume based on looks," Wang said, "I'd much rather walk around as Surge [from *X-Men*] because I'm more comfortable with the character, fandom, and outfit."

"I generally like to pick something I already have the hair for," added Waln, "I can't stand wearing wigs, they itch SO BAD."

Sometimes physical appearance can act as a barrier — "There aren't that many fictional characters of color," said Jacobs, who is planning to do a Storm (from *X-Men*) costume soon. "I've stayed away from too many human characters because of that. Pokémon are safe because there's no 'you're not accurate because you're black.'"

Jacobs says that she hasn't personally had any of these types of experiences since she's avoided dressing in a way that could put her in that position. "I've seen it happen



to other cosplayers online," she said.

Wang is aware of this issue as well, and is planning for her next costume to be a Daft Punk / Tron Legacy crossover. "I'm going to continue cosplaying androgynous/desexualized/masked characters; there's a different convention experience under the helmet."

Others are fans of gijinka, a cosplay style where you anthropomorphize a character and represent it without actually being the character.

"You can't dress up as Pokémon without suits, and that's a whole different world," said Vega, whose Glaceon outfit was an example of gijinka.

Gijinka can make it easy to go in a group. Jacobs, Vega, and Arianna all dressed as Eeveelutions when attending Anime Boston.

"I like to costume in groups," Jacobs said. "That's why Pokémon is usually a good idea, there are lots of options for everybody." Jacobs has also cosplayed in a group as Twilight Sparkle (from *My Little Pony*).

"Cosplaying alone is awkward," she said, "especially on the T. If you're by yourself, people start staring."

Creation of a costume

Cosplayers typically plan the costumes for a convention far in advance of the event. Designing a costume can take anywhere from a week to six months to a year.

The worst night? The cosplayers all agree — right before the con.

"Most of the work is done the night before," said Paula Jacobs '13.

"I was practically tooling to get the Journey costume done," Ahearn mused. "It's Parkinson's Law — work expands to fill the time to allot its completion."

Creating a costume isn't cheap, either. Cost for a single character can range drastically. Some costumes can be assembled for free from the right selection of items from a cosplayer's current closet and a good touch of makeup, while the price of materials for others can be extremely expensive.

Vega compared the "work/sleep/friends" question students often struggle with to a typical crafting problem that cosplayers face.

"You can have it cheap, you can have it well made, or you can have it now," she said. The three factors need to be taken into consideration when designing a costume.



"At the end of the day, that's what it is. It is designing and building things."

Iron Man at the Institute

One of the interesting costumes we came across was an Iron Man suit created by Brian Chan '02, an instructor at the MIT hobby shop. "I like Iron Man because it has a good story of a self-made super hero," he said, "Also, in the series, Tony Stark is an MIT Alum, so I think it would be a shame if none of the best Iron Man costumes came out of MIT."

Chan's costume is not only visually appealing, but it is a functioning piece of engineering. It is "made from a big combination of old-school and modern methods," Chan said.

After sketching the costume and modeling it virtually, Chan 3D printed the gloves using *shapeways.com* and the facilities at the Hobby shop. He waterjet-cut and laser-cut many of the panels and CNC-milled the others.

"Even with all the tech, I have to put a lot of handcrafting time into the costumes, with carving, filing, and sewing the components that couldn't quite be made by machine."

All the lights on the costume are hand-soldered, he said.

er's machine or one that belongs to the dorm, the classic item is still the best way to make costumes.

But fabric and fortunate finds in the dollar store aren't the only thing you need to cosplay — sometimes more expensive materials are needed.

"Different materials you have to deal with in different ways," said Waln. She rotated between foam, plastics, wood, and a variety of other methods to complete her Ezio costume.

Engineering

One of the delights of cosplaying working through design difficulties. How can you hide things effectively within a costume? What's the best way to make a prop?

"Cosplay is an engineering problem," Ahearn said.

In that vein, MIT offers a number of resources that can be helpful to students looking to cosplay. The waterjet and laser cutters scattered across campus (though they require the proper safety training!) are tools that can be used to make authentic costumes. As for workspaces, the MIT Hobby Shop has classes where students can learn metal and wood working, and MITERS offers an EE lab. Trying to craft a costume alone in a dormitory can be difficult.

"I've definitely upset the members of my common area before," said Vega, who lives in Random Hall. "If I have balls of yarn flying everywhere" it's not appreciated.

Waln explained that the hidden blades for the Ezio costume were one of the most difficult things to pull off, especially considering the constraints against weapons when going to conventions. It "went through ten, fifteen different iterations trying to make it work correctly" (the blades were meant to be mobile).

"That was a lot of fun actually. It's something I'm interested in doing here," she said. "The idea of prototype, try it fail, try it fail, try it fail..."

For the cosplayers of MIT, costuming creatively engages their critical thinking and engineering skills.

"I want to build a thing. I love designing things," said Waln. "At the end of the day, that's what it is. It is designing and building things."

Fandom in student groups

By Jessica J. Pourian
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR



OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH

MIT Science Fiction Society

Members: 200–300 officially, about 0–15 attend any given meeting.

Office location: W20-473

What is it?: “We’re not fans, we just read the stuff” is one of the mottos of MITSFS. Housing the world’s largest collection of science fiction and fantasy, MITSFS has over 65,000 titles in their library (and more copies of books located off-site). They have everything from Asimov to the most recent sci-fi novels — most of the club’s money goes towards buying books.

MIT community members pay \$11–15 a year for a subscription to the library, and can

check out any book they like. In addition to serving as a library, MITSFS invites authors to speak. Recent guests have included John Scalzi and Charles Stross.

Popular fandoms: “In regards to fandoms, we declare ourselves not fans,” said Alex Westbrook ’13, former Skinner (president) of MITSFS. “We have novels based on a lot of fan things ... people generally read what they want to read.”

Thoughts on the survey: It’d “be interesting to see if we could ask everyone [about sci-fi]” Westbrook said, “To see what percentage of MIT is actually interested in that stuff.”

Contact: mitsfs@mit.edu

MIT Quidditch

Members: About 8.

What is it?: The Quidditch team plays Quidditch, the fictional game from Harry Potter. The game is played on a field, with players holding brooms between their legs. The snitch is a cross country runner and bludgers are dodgeballs. Except for the lack of flying, the rules are nearly the same as they are in the book.

The MIT Quidditch team is part of the International Quidditch Association, said Chinua “Chewy” Shaw ’13, a chaser and captain of the team. The team was recognized by the ASA in fall of 2009, and has since been competing with other local schools like Harvard, Bostun University, and Tufts.

“We are kind of a lower key team,” Shaw said, “We just practice a few hours every week.” Practices are 2-3 hours each week, on Briggs Field and games occur about once a month.

Popular Fandoms: Unsurprisingly, Harry Potter is enormously popular within the team. Though most people are HP fans, “There are a couple people who aren’t but thought it’d be a crazy thing to try out,” Shaw said.

Contact: quidditch-execs@mit.edu

The Assassin’s Guild

Members: 100–200 (“that’s counting people who don’t play very often”).

What is it?: “The Assassin’s Guild runs live action roleplay games,” said Alex Westbrook ’13, who served as the Secretary of the Exchequer (treasurer) of the Guild last year. “LARP is where people act out various roles in a set them. You pretend to be a character that’s given to you and it’s like acting, but without a script.” It is similar to a game of Dungeons and Dragons, but live action. Concerns about keeping a straight face shouldn’t deter anyone from joining, Westbrook said. “People do break character so don’t feel nervous,” she assured.

Game length varies — some are 10 days and have 60–70 players, but there are also 3-days and 1-days.

Asked if anyone cosplays for games, Westbrook replied, “Sometimes people do dress up. There’s a wide variety, some people will go extremely dressed up, some people will go in what they came from work. There’s no requirement that you dress up.”

Popular Fandoms: The Guild hosted a *Harry Potter* inspired game during IAP of 2011 and had a *Team Fortress 2* game recently, but they mostly stick to their own storylines. However, Westbrook hinted that there are plans for a *Firefly* game sometime in the near future.

Contact: high-council@mit.edu

Anime Club

Members: Showing attendance of 30–40, over 100 Library members.

Office Location: W20-445

What is it?: The mainstay of the club is the weekly anime showings in 3-133, which are open to the MIT community. To mix it up, the club often hosts other events like a movie or karaoke night, game night, or barbecue.

The club maintains a large library that members can access for a small fee (\$5 a semester for students). The library includes a large collection of manga (Japanese comic books) and DVDs of anime.

Popular Fandoms: The interests of the anime club are very diverse. “Everyone has

their preference,” said James A. Duyck ’14, club president.

“It really depends on what you like already,” said Steve Powell ’14, “There’s such a diversity of different types of genres that are represented by anime.”

Though it’s difficult to suggest one anime for everyone, the club members recommended Hayao Miyazaki movies to start for the anime novice.

Thoughts on the survey: Approximately 7 percent of MIT students identified themselves as serious anime fans on our survey. “I’m not surprised,” Duyck said, “That seems about right.”

Contact: anime-inquiry@mit.edu



GREG STEINBRECHER—THE TECH

The Anime Club has an extensive library on the fourth floor of the Student Center.

Fandoms, the Internet, and Harry Potter

An interview with Flourish Klink, co-founder of FictionAlley and CMS lecturer

By Deena Wang

ASSOCIATE CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Flourish M. Klink, a lecturer in MIT’s Comparative Media Studies (CMS) program, has built a life around fandoms. After running her own *Harry Potter* fansite and being on staff at *Fanfiction.net*, at age 13, Klink co-founded the *Harry Potter* fanfiction website FictionAlley with nine others. FictionAlley was “incorporated as an educational non-profit with the mission of helping people learn to write through fanfiction,” said Klink, and it was one of the first fanfiction forums on the Internet that made writing improvement a site-wide mission.

The Tech: Could you tell us a little bit [about] how you first got involved in fandom?

Flourish Klink: I was very into *The X-Files* when I was a kid. At the time, it was the late 90s ... I think it’s fair to say that it’s the first fandom that primarily existed on the Internet. So I was a kid, I had Internet access, I spent a lot of time searching online for things I liked. I found *X-Files* fandom.

I realized pretty quickly that on the Internet, no one knows you’re a dog, so it didn’t matter that I was 10. As long as I had good grammar, people would talk to me, which was great. So when *Harry Potter* came out, I got really obsessed with it. Since I had found there was a community for *The X-Files*, it seemed like there must be such a thing for *Harry Potter* also. There wasn’t, so I made a website for it and met with the one other person who had a website about it at the time.

TT: You’re currently a lecturer in CMS, and you wrote your Master’s thesis on fandoms. Could you tell me a little about how your experience in fandom has affected your career path?

FK: So I do lecture in CMS, but that’s not really my career. Most of my work is working for a [trans-media storytelling] company called The Alchemists, for which I’m the chief participation officer, which means I take care of questions about fans

and fandoms.

It’s easy to internalize this idea of The Author or what’s valid or what’s good or what’s important, and I really got caught up in that. It took me until my senior year of college to realize I was very interested in the [religion degree] I was studying, but part of why I was studying it was because I couldn’t envision a world in which I could talk about fandom and anybody would take me seriously. I had known Henry [Jenkins, former Co-Director of the MIT Comparative Media Studies program] from when he was doing research for his book *Convergence Culture*. I was one of his informants. I called him up and said “Okay, I think I might want to go to grad school,” and he said “okay, why don’t you come to grad school at MIT?” I only applied here and nowhere else, and I came, and coming here was how I met people at the Alchemists.

For that company now, I do research on different fan cultures we’re working with and I also write what is essentially fanfiction. At least, it’s not fanfiction because it’s “canonical” but I write transmedia extensions. For instance, [for] a recent CW Television show, I ran the tumblr account of one of the characters, and responded to people, and kept it populated.

TT: You wrote a Master’s thesis on the topic of how people within fandom use humorous and dramatic images and videos to criticize the original work in an accessible way. What insights have you gained into the nature of fandom because of your research?

FK: Well, I think to some degree the word fan is, I’m not sure I would say the word is a misleading one. I have spent many years of my life involved in *Harry Potter* fandom, and it’s certainly affected my life more than any other story, but I actually have a lot of problems with the last three books. I strongly dislike the last *Harry Potter* book. I got so mad when I read it. I thought it was terrible, but that doesn’t change the fact that I’m involved with

thinking about it, and I think it’s a really interesting series despite being something that I sort of hate in the end.

I want to keep being involved in the community and talking about it and thinking about it in different ways, and using it as a tool to think about the world around me, a way to talk to people about important issues, whatever. When you say you’re a fan, that kind of engagement isn’t included, and people don’t think of it. And that’s really about what my thesis was about. I was using to some degree the idea of humor as a way in, the idea of humor and anti-fandom as a way of saying there’s also more complex ideas that you can have. I mean yes, anti-fandom is one thing because people are anti-fans and they behave in ways a lot like fans except they hate the thing, but there’s also this whole world of gradations of feelings about it. These things have been talked about plenty in the literature on fandom, but the terms of the discussion are not built to include them. ... We don’t have a word for people who are still deeply emotionally invested, but maybe not always in a positive way. And that limits the way people can think about their audiences.

TT: What directions do you see fandom going in the future?

FK: I think there’s a lot of things that have changed since fandom moved off of LiveJournal and on to Tumblr. For about 10 years, fandom was really centered about LiveJournal. Moving to Tumblr has made a lot of changes in terms of how you get involved in fandoms, and how you can build communities or not. I think that fandom has become a lot more decentralized and there’s less of an emphasis on fanfiction now than there ever has been, and more of an emphasis on GIFs, on a lot more visual stuff. GIFs get a lot more traction because you’ve got a way to propagate images a lot more easily.

In the long-term, I’m a little concerned about



HO YIN AU—THE TECH

that, and that’s mostly because I think there’s a lot of stuff that will be lost. Tumblr is not always the most reliable service in terms of storing your [stuff]. In certain ways, a GIF can never die because if you delete it, the people who re-blogged it still have it, but where does Tumblr make their money? I don’t know. I understood how LiveJournal made its money, but I don’t know how Tumblr does, and I don’t know if it’s going to shut down, or what’s going to happen.


We’ve already seen this happen with Delicious, which used to be a center of fanfiction recommendations and fanfiction links. Delicious shut down, it was bought, and it was gutted. And now, many, many years of fanfiction links and probably the best way to find fanfiction online, gone. I don’t know what’s next, and I think it’s a mistake to think [people will] turn away from this idea of casually propagating GIFs, or whatever they’ve got, because I think it’s too exciting, it’s too great. I don’t know if in 10 years, we’ll be able to look back on it and have the same kind of record of what’s happening right now, and I don’t know whether we’ll continue to see organizations forming in the same way they used to do. Something new may come up, something new may appear, but I don’t know what that is yet.

For the full interview, check The Tech’s website.

Tastes at MIT

By Kali Xu
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

What kind of thing does the average student like? The average professor? *The Tech* polled a random sampling of students and professors to find out!



Amie J. Guo '14, Course 14/15, Baker
If you could meet one fictional character, who would it be?
Blair Waldorf (from *Gossip Girl*).

Favorite movie, TV show, book, or video game.
Suits.

What was your high school stereotype?
Not sure — probably preppy.

What do you think is the most popular TV show at MIT?
Game of Thrones.


How often do you watch TV?
4 hours a week.

C. J. Munroe '14, Course 2, Next
If you could meet one fictional character, who would it be?
Harry Potter — just the first thing that came to mind.

Favorite movie, TV show, book, or video game.
Video game: *Super Smash*, movie: *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, book: *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, TV show: *Everybody Hates Chris*.


What was your high school stereotype?
I was known as a smart person. That's about what I was known as.

What do you think is the most popular TV show at MIT?
I don't even know. It could be one of a few things. I know a lot of people watch *Game of Thrones*, I know there are people who watch *Doctor Who*. It's also changed while I've been here. I know people used to watch *Glee*. I don't think they



do that much anymore.

How often do you watch TV?
Not often. If there's sports on I might watch a little bit. I don't usually watch TV shows.



Juanita Ballesteros '15, Course 4, Burton-Conner
If you could meet one fictional character, who would it be?
Harry Potter.

Favorite movie, TV show, book, or video game.
Book: *100 Years of Solitude*.

What was your high school stereotype?
I guess I was a nerd.

What do you think is the most popular TV show at MIT?
Game of Thrones.

How often do you watch TV?
Twice a week (an hour a week).

Walter Lewin, Course 8 professor

Favorite TV show?
The NBC News at 6:30

Favorite movie?
Les Enfants du Paradis

Favorite book?
For the Love of Physics (by Walter Lewin)

What do you think of MIT's tastes? From our

survey data, Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings, and Game of Thrones are the most popular series, followed by Doctor Who, Sherlock, and Pokemon.

I would never want to see any of these movies.

Enter ten professor's offices (choose at random). That's the average MIT taste! Come see my office or see the office of the provost!


Tori M. Jensen '16, Course 2, Maseeh
If you could meet one fictional character, who would it be?
Jay Gatsby.

Favorite movie, TV show, book, or video game.
Definitely *Sims* for PC. And *Super Smash* for any other console. I really like *She's the Man*. And TV show, *The Office*.

What was your high school stereotype?
Late!

What do you think is the most popular TV show at MIT?
How I Met Your Mother. I hear everyone talk about *How I Met Your Mother*.

How often do you watch TV?
During the semester, probably once a month, if that, but I usually catch up over the summer.




Michelle M. Victora '14, Course 8, Burton-Conner
If you could meet one fictional character, who would it be?
Batman.

Favorite movie, TV show, book, or video game.
The Dark Knight, Firefly. I like shows that got canceled prematurely, like *Firefly* and *Wonderfalls*. They're like, the underdogs that didn't make it. I feel bad for them.

What was your high school stereotype?
Nerd, but not geek. I hung out with the smart kids, did well in school, and I was pretty bookish. But everyone knew that I really liked Batman. People would bring it up and joke about it, but I wouldn't say I was a stereotypical comic book geek. I just liked the movies a lot.

What do you think is the most popular TV show at MIT?
Game of Thrones.

How often do you watch TV?
Not that often, I just watch movies. See I don't like TV because it seems serialized, and then I have to keep up. Actually, I guess that's not fair. I watch it over mealtime, which is the most boring answer ever. But I watch it over lunch sometimes—*Scrubs* or *Adventure Time* or something with no commercials. I hate commercials.



Matthew Vander Heiden, Course 7 professor
Favorite TV show?
It depends on my mood. When I have time to watch TV, which is a bigger issue, sometimes I watch a half-hour comedy, sometimes I watch whatever's on. There's no rhyme or reason to it.

I guess I like watching football. I like watching *Spongebob* with my kids — *Spongebob's* legit. It's really good, it reminds me of the *Looney Tunes* cartoons when I was growing up, it has something there for everybody.

I can tell you what I don't like. I can't stand reality TV. But on the other hand I don't like really artsy stuff either.

I'm actually really appreciative of pop culture. But there's certain aspects of it I don't like. I can't remember the last time I went to the Kendall Square theatre, for instance. I've been there, but probably 12 years ago. That's where you go to see a "film," if you want to see something with subtitles and a beret.

The movies I do watch are almost always mainstream movies.


Favorite movie?
That also depends on the genre. Favorite comedy, for a while I really liked *Old School*. More recently, I liked the first *Hangover*, and the other ones weren't as good. I don't get to watch a lot of movies, but it's very random, because I have kids, so I watch Disney and Pixar movies with my kids a lot. I like *Finding Nemo* and *Wall-E* a lot. My favorite one is *The Incredibles* though.

Favorite book?
I read all kinds of different things, so I'm not really prone to favorites. I know I'm not being very helpful.

What do you think MIT students like?
I bet it's the whole gamut. It's probably as diverse as it could be.

Gene M. Brown, Course 7 professor
Favorite TV show?
I don't really watch TV shows. I watch baseball and football games. I like sports.

Favorite movie?
I don't go to movies. It's been so long, I really can't think of any.




Ofir Nachum '14, Course 6-3/18, Burton-Conner
If you could meet one fictional character, who would it be?
Yossarian (from the book *Catch-22*). Seems like a funny guy. I think he and I would get along; we're both really paranoid. Sometimes I walk alone at night and I get scared. I imagine Yossarian's the same.

Favorite movie, TV show, book, or video game.
Movie: *Crash*, book: *The Stranger* by Albert Camus, video game: *Halo: Reach*. I don't watch TV.

What was your high school stereotype?
Drug dealer. No, actually, I derived my coolness factor from math competitions, so that stereotype would be, I dunno, mafia boss.

What do you think is the most popular TV show at MIT?
How I Met Your Mother.

How often do you watch TV?
I don't watch TV willingly. Unwillingly — one episode a week. Sometimes I try to get away with half an episode, but people are persistent.



Robert Langer, Course 10/20 professor
Favorite TV show?
Law & Order

Favorite movie?
Casablanca

Favorite book?
The Last Lone Inventor (by Evan Schwartz)

What do you think of MIT's tastes?
They're similar to others.'


Cory Monroe '13, Course 6-3, Sigma Alpha Epsilon
If you could melet one fictional character, who would it be?
Randy Marsh (from *South Park*).

Favorite movie, TV show, book, or video game.
Super Meat Boy (video game).

What was your high school stereotype?
Outgoing? I guess that's not really a stereotype. Social butterfly. Nobody really knew me as like a geek.

What do you think is the most popular TV show at MIT?
How I Met Your Mother.

How often do you watch TV?
I'd say 2 hours a week. Okay, actually I guess 3.



Junot Díaz, Course 21W professor
Favorite TV show?
Currently? *Borgen*, a Danish series about the first female prime minister and this anime called *Gargantia* that's currently streaming in the U.S. Of all time? *The Wire*. No question.

Favorite movie?
Central do Brasil.

What do you think of MIT's tastes? From our survey data, Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings, and Game of Thrones are the most popular series, followed by Doctor Who, Sherlock, and Pokemon.

Our students are so incredibly diverse — it's hard to generalize. I'm incredibly nerdy so all the nerdy stuff you mention above I'm into too. Well, except for *Pokemon*.

COMMENTS

Here are the editor’s picks of the 400+ comments from the fandom survey. Have something you wish was included? Send us a letter at surveys@tech.mit.edu.

Nikola Tesla is the beast and I would go gay for Tony Stark. End of story.

I would love to know the percentage of the student body that reads fanfiction.

After coming to MIT, I haven’t had much time to read for fun.. It’s probably my fault for being involved in too many things anyways.. but I can’t wait until I have children. Because then I could read them all the books I want to read, using “bedtime stories” as an excuse.. I just need to justify to myself that reading fantasy is beneficial in some way..

LOST IS THE BEST TV SHOW EVER CREATED.
WHAT THE HELL.

TV shows are degenerative to our society and I have stopped watching them at around the age of 8 when I realized that there are far more enlightening and mentally stimulating things out there than poor cinematography and completely repetitive plotlines.

Why are you assuming that we are all such giant nerds?

I wrote a diatribe about how much I hated Pokemon at the age of 6. I have never seen Star Wars or read Harry Potter. I didn’t recognize any of the names from Firefly. or Star Trek.

I went to the Hobbit premiere dressed as the One Ring. I got an inflatable inner tube, covered it in gold paper, and sharpied the elvish phrase around the outside. It was awesome.

I was hoping this survey would touch upon the more obscure fandoms, telling people they are not alone in these fandoms.

Some days, I spend more time reading fanfiction than doing work.

WHAT ABOUT BOARD GAMES????

I was so excited to do this survey when I read the description, and then you entirely dropped the floor beneath me. Dude, people geek out over board games too.

Should have asked more about music things... most MIT students don’t have time for shit like watching TV. At least music can sometimes be experienced while multitasking. I don’t give a shit about pokemon or firefly, but I’m actually looking forward to the new Hobbit movie.

Do any of us actually have time to feed our addictions?

I’ve been to most of the Harry Potter midnight premieres dressed in costume and it is the only series I have ever been enthusiastic about. However, I definitely enjoyed 50 Shades of Grey.

When I went to Harry Potter World in Orlando, I cried. Multiple times. All things Joss Whedon (Buffy, Firefly, and Dr. Horrible are favorites).

Do you think there is a certifiable ‘nerd’ score?

PICARD DIDN’T NEED A GIRDLE AND HE’S OLD ENOUGH TO FATHER KIRK

Whoever made this survey is a 1st-gen Pokemon supremacist and should be shanked. Arceus is the best Pokemon. One does not compete with God.

I think I like Picard more than Kirk and Janeway because he’s bald and that makes him very trustworthy and understanding. I do not know why this is the case.

I don’t give a shit about any of these nerd things... where are the sports/music questions??

I’m mostly Star Wars, but I also really Star Trek, so I don’t get the tension between fandoms there...

Which label best describes you in high school?
My answer:
I don’t go by labels.

I’m in the Les Miz fandom! Don’t forget us theatre geeks!

I don’t know anything about Star Wars, Star Trek, Firefly, or Lord of the Rings.....I feel like a bad nerd.

The Vampire Diaries is like no other. For those of you who say “Oh, just another thing about Vampires and Werewolves, lame.” YOU ARE WRONG. The Vampire Diaries is totally 100% badass, with just the right amount of action and romance. In the first season, one of the main badass vampire characters, Damon Salvatore, is pictured reading Twilight and saying “...what the hell is this crap. Vampires don’t sparkle.”

My high school year-book quote was from Star Wars. In hindsight, it was probably not the best choice, but it’s a great series so I’m not embarrassed.

Plans for mixed-use development at intersection of Mass Ave. and Main St.

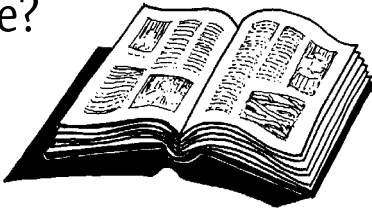
Following Normandy Real Estate Partners and Twining Properties' purchase of properties formally owned by Kathy Fennell and the Fennell Property Trust in January, plans for the area at the intersection of Mass Ave. and Main St. will have a general focus on mixed-use development but remain unspecific. A joint venture between Normandy Real Estate Partners and Twining Properties bought the parcels, including several parking lots and the former Quest Diagnostics building, for a reported \$32.4 million. According to Cambridge City Councilor Kenneth Reeves, the Fennell properties constitute "the largest number of parcels to be sold in Central Square in a long time."

By phone, Alex Twining, CEO of Twining Properties, commented that his objective is to transform the parcels into a mixed-use development including "residential, retail, hotel, and office spaces." "We want to make this a really exciting new part of Central Square," Twining said. "Right now Central Square gets pretty dead around the intersection between Main Street and Mass Ave.," where the properties are located. Before proceeding with any development plans, Twining stated that he and his partners are monitoring the city's ongoing discussion of new zoning regulations, which would likely impact the area surrounding the former Fennell properties.

Twining Properties has played a significant role in the development of Kendall Square as the developer of the Watermark apartments and Broad Point Canal. Twining is also responsible for starting a retail-leasing group, CityRetail, headed by Jesse Bearkan, which attracted some of the first retailers and restaurants to Kendall Square including Evoo and Za. After facing the challenge of attracting retailers to Kendall Square, Twining stated, "Central Square has a lot more to start with [than Kendall Square]. For us it's exciting to do a project in an area where there is already a lot to work with."

—Sara Hess

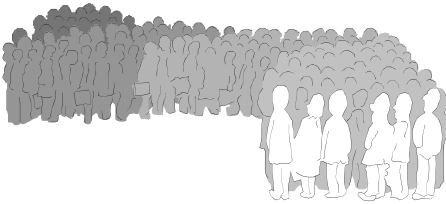
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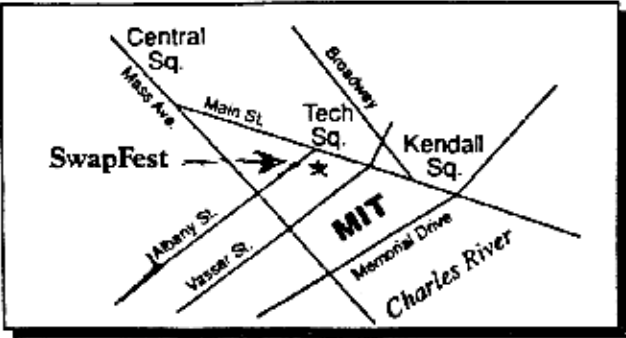
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Bomb suspect talked of jihad

During Russia visit, Tsarnaev held extremist views

By Ellen Barry
THE NEW YORK TIMES

KIZLYAR, Russia — It’s not every day that a well-dressed American shows up in this town, where shaggy cows meander over deeply rutted roads, so people remember Tamerlan Tsarnaev. Among the things that made the young visitor stand out, two acquaintances recalled Thursday, was his avid interest in waging jihad.

“He already had jihad views when he came. I think because he was Chechen, he was rooting for his homeland,” Zaur M. Zakaryayev, 29, a member of a Salafi advocacy organization, the Union of the Just, said Thursday. “When he got here he was surprised at the conditions. I think he expected to find a full-fledged war, that one people was fighting with another.”

These new accounts out of Kizlyar, where Tsarnaev spent time with a cousin who is a prominent Salafi Islamist leader, have begun to flesh out a picture of what he did during his six months in Russia last year.

On Sunday agents from the Federal Security Service, the successor to the Soviet-era KGB, interrogated Tsarnaev’s cousin, who is in police custody, asking whether he had impressed the young man with “extremist” views, his lawyer said.

The cousin, Magomed Kartashov, told them it was the other way around. In interviews, several young men here agreed, saying that Kartashov had spent hours trying to stop Tsarnaev from “going to the forest,” or joining one of the militant cells scattered throughout the volatile region, locked in low-level guerrilla warfare with the police.

“Magomed explained to him at length that violent methods are not right,” Zakaryayev said.

Tsarnaev’s friends in Kizlyar may be responsible for a crucial change in his thinking. When he left, he was no longer focused on the local grievances that fueled the fighting against the police — but instead broader issues in the Islamic world, including the effect of U.S. and Russian policy in the Middle East.

Rasim B. Ibadamov, 30, said by last summer Tsarnaev was taking steps that suggested that he had let go of the idea of joining the underground — for instance, applying to renew his Russian passport. “What I can say is there was the impression that Tamerlan listened to Magomed and to some extent, he changed,” Ibadamov said. “His behavior changed. He started to read more, and to read different books. In general, as far as I understand, he changed his views.”

Tsarnaev’s body was interred Thursday in an undisclosed location, the police in Worcester, Mass. said in a statement. The announcement represented an end to a grim effort to find a place to bury the bombing suspect, who was shot by the police and run over by his brother, Dzhokhar, after the two tried to elude the authorities during a chase that began April 18.

A long list of cemeteries had refused to accept the body.

“A courageous and compassionate individual came forward to provide the assistance needed to properly bury the deceased,” read a statement published on the police department’s website.

Tsarnaev’s relationship with Kartashov, which was first reported by Time magazine on Wednesday,

may help explain his mentality as he returned to the United States. Kizlyar is one of the most dangerous spots in Dagestan’s insurgency, in which militants kill scores of policemen every year and counterterrorism raids can leave neighborhoods in ruins. Kartashov once served as a police inspector there, but he left the force around 10 years ago and has since become a charismatic Salafi leader.

His group protests police counterterrorism tactics in the region, which are often brutal, and burned U.S. and French flags after the release of the anti-Islam YouTube film “Innocence of Muslims.” The authorities in Dagestan — who monitor legal Salafi organizations for links to militants — have viewed Kartashov’s activity with mounting suspicion. He was arrested two weeks ago, after police stopped a wedding convoy that was flying black flags with Arabic phrases.

“To all our questions there was only one answer: ‘We only have two flags — the flag of the Russian Federation, and the flag of the republic of Dagestan. Do not raise any other flag,’” Ibadamov said. Kartashov now faces a possible 10-year sentence for resisting police.

Ibadamov said that Tamerlan Tsarnaev’s parents had first turned to Kartashov for counseling during earlier trips to Russia, and that when Tsarnaev came to Russia last year they wanted him to follow suit.

“I understand that they had a kind of Islamic vacuum,” he said. “They turned to Magomed as a knowledgeable person. Magomed was happy about this; he explained what Islam was, what his views were. And the father was complaining that Tamerlan was sort of a tough kid, a boxer.”

Tsarnaev buried

Tamerlan Tsarnaev buried in small Muslim Virginia cemetery

By Jess Bidgood
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BOSTON — The mystery surrounding the burial of the body of Tamerlan Tsarnaev has come to an end. The Boston Marathon bombing suspect was buried this week at a small Muslim cemetery in Doswell, Va.

According to his death certificate, which was released Friday, Tsarnaev was buried Thursday at Al-Barzakh Cemetery, about half an hour north of Richmond. Officials in Massachusetts had said the body was moved to a burial site out of state. But they had refused to disclose where.

Tsarnaev was buried Thursday at Al-Barzakh Cemetery, north of Richmond.

Tsarnaev was shot by the police and run over by his younger brother, Dzhokhar, as the two tried to elude the authorities during a chase that began April 18. They are believed to have carried out the bombings that killed three people and wounded more than 260 on April 15.

His body was claimed by an uncle, Ruslan Tsarni, about two weeks later, but it remained at a funeral home in Worcester, Mass., for six days, because no cemetery or host community could be found that would accept it.

Martha Mullen followed the story from her home in Rich-

mond, and asked local religious leaders if they could think of anywhere Tsarnaev could be laid to rest.

“Jesus tells us, ‘Love your enemies,’ not to hate them after they’re dead,” said Mullen, according to a statement provided by the Islamic Society of Greater Richmond.

She received an offer from the Islamic Funeral Services of Virginia, a small organization that runs a cemetery with several dozen plots in Doswell, an unincorporated village with less than 2,000 people that is best-known as the home of the King’s Dominion theme park. The organization worked with the Worcester police, the Worcester funeral director, Peter A. Stefan, and Tsarni to make arrangements.

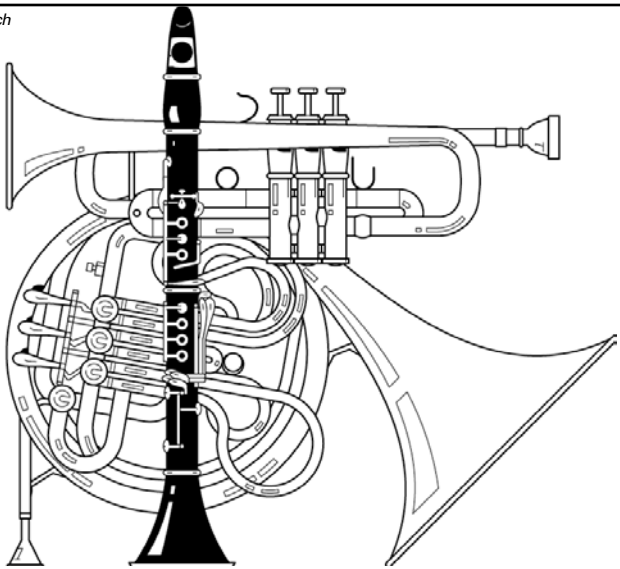
“We strongly disagree with his violent actions, but that does not release us from our obligation to return his body to the earth,” said an unnamed official with the group who was quoted in the statement.

Tsarnaev’s body was moved late Wednesday, an official at the funeral home said.

The burial came as a surprise to Doswell area officials.

“Caroline County was not consulted or given any input into the decision-making process for determining a burial site for this individual,” Charles M. Culley Jr., the administrator for the county where the cemetery is, said in a statement. “We had no advance notice of the decision and unfortunately learned of the selection of a burial site through the media.”

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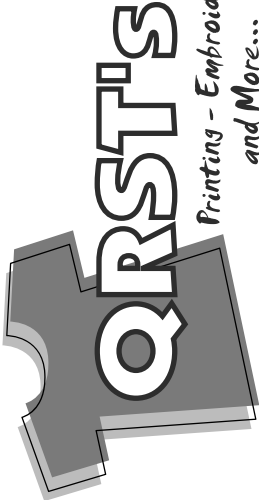
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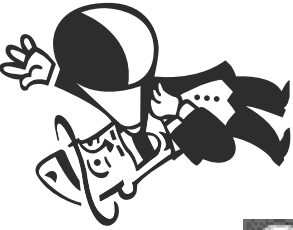
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event 

Cookies with Canines Study Break

Thursday, May 16, 2–3:30 PM
Hayden Library (14S)




Photo by Christopher Maynor

Additional Study Breaks:

Monday, May 20, 2 PM
Dewey Library (E53-100)

Monday, May 20, 2-3:30 PM
Rotch Library (7-238)


Tuesday, May 21, 2-3:30 PM
Barker Library (10-500)

Take a break, have a snack, pet a dog, and de-stress!

The therapy dogs from Dog B.O.N.E.S. will return to Hayden Library on Thursday, May 16.


Also during finals week, cookies and beverages will be served at several library locations.

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WHEN ARE YOUR
OFFICE HOURS?

IT'S IN THE SYLLABUS

HOW WILL MY GRADE BE COMPUTED?

IN THE

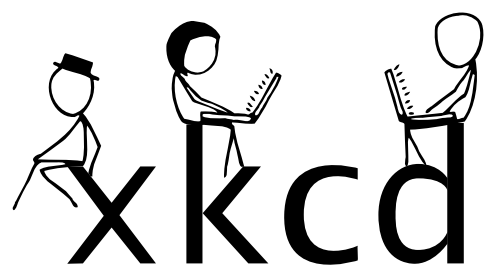
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IT'S IN THE SYLLABUS

This message brought to you by every instructor that ever lived.

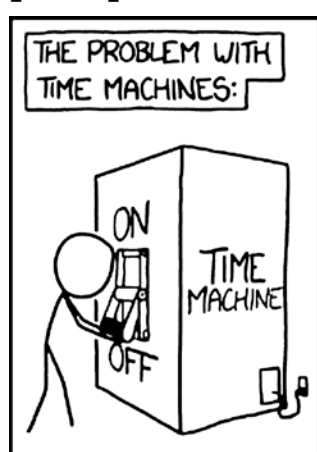
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[1203] Time Machines



**A WEBCOMIC OF ROMANCE,
SARCASM, MATH, AND LANGUAGE**

by Randall Munroe



THE PROBLEM WITH
TIME MACHINES:

A stick figure is shown from the side, reaching out to press a button on a large, rectangular machine. The machine is labeled 'TIME MACHINE' in bold, capital letters. The button is labeled 'ON' above it and 'OFF' below it. A small, square object is being pushed into the button. Above the button, there is a jagged, cloud-like shape containing the word 'CLICK' in bold, capital letters. Above that, a series of horizontal lines represent a sound effect, with the word 'EEEEEE' written above them. A power cord is plugged into the bottom right of the machine.

All time systems nominal T-minus ... ten ... eleven ...

Saturday Stumper

by Lars G. Doubleday

Solution, page 22

ACROSS

- 1 Bomber's remark?
- 11 Mastermind
- 15 Concert master
- 16 Dexterity
- 17 Second Oscar/Tony/Emmy/
Grammy actress
- 18 Quote source, for short
- 19 Lord Grantham alma mater on
Downton Abbey
- 20 Word starter like ceno-
- 21 Got up
- 23 Alternative to cherry and walnut
- 25 Spell checkers
- 26 A lot is used for it
- 31 Come after
- 32 Move out
- 33 Issue, with "out"
- 36 Blockers' targets
- 37 The ultimate in indulgence
- 40 "By the way . . ."
- 41 Pizza base, perhaps
- 43 League
- 44 Growth metaphor
- 46 1921 Literature Nobel
- 49 Any of the Bee Gees, by birth
- 51 Sleeve fillers
- 52 When "Et tu, Brute?" is spoken
- 53 Rice rival
- 55 Largest of the Tuscan Archipelago
- 59 "Aren't you clever?!"
- 60 Crawl space?

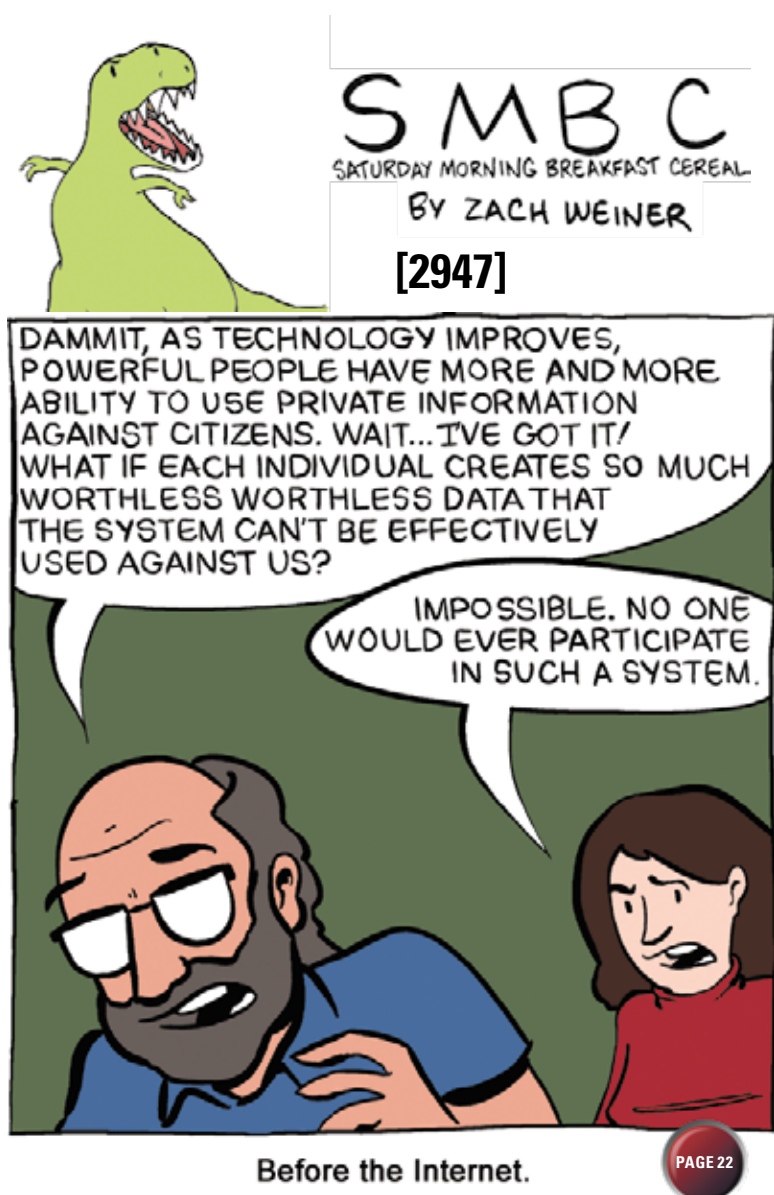
- 63 Société d'__ (Canadian Crown corporation)
64 Not involved at all
65 Hold back
66 Machines that sound like staplers
- DOWN**
- 1 Drain
2 Drop
3 __ scratch
4 Parfait layer, often
5 Confine, with "in"
6 Dolphin in the Pro Football Hall of Fame
7 Exceptional
8 Domino's topping introduced in '07
9 Have the best time
10 Punching bags
11 They're not quite final
12 Catches
13 Holding
14 Demands
22 Culture Is __ Business (McLuhan book)
24 PR staff
25 Not together
26 Sand ____
27 Literally, "listen"
28 What Sunshimmer promises
29 Kitchen covering
30 Celebrate
34 Hackman Oscar role

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14
15											16			
17											18			
19					20				21	22				
			23	24				25						
26	27	28				29	30							
31						32					33		34	35
36				37	38					39		40		
41			42		43					44	45			
		46		47					48					
49	50								51					
52							53	54			55	56	57	58
59					60	61				62				
63					64									
65					66									

- | | |
|---|--|
| 35 __ per centimeter (measure of surface tension) | 50 Shrewd |
| 38 Snagged | 53 Leave |
| 39 Camping gear | 54 "We Need a Little Christmas" singer |
| 42 Butterflies | 56 Given name for many a 49 Across |
| 45 City north of Naples | 57 Sound of a broken seal |
| 47 "__ dreaming?" | 58 __ Kitchen (organic food brand) |
| 48 Champagne glasses | 61 Like |
| 49 Incapacitated, in a way | 62 Home of St. Clair College |

404 by Kali Xu and Stephanie Su

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//Index 5
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Master Techdoku

Solution, page 22

2-	336x			14+		2-	7
			1		2		40x
48x				56x	30x		
	12x		30x		28+		1
75x		24x		6x			2
	7		8		16x		1-
23+			7			4x	
		80x			3		6

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Sudoku

Solution, page 22

1				2				7
8		2				6		
		5	1	8		9		3
				4	5			
2			6		8			4
			2	3				
6		9		5	2	7		
		8				3		2
3				1				6

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Apprentice Techdoku

Solution, page 22

30x	30x	60x		6x
		6+		
24x		36x		1
	12x		6	30x
	2÷	30x		
1			120x	

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.



Course Bidding Dates for Fall 2013

Sloan (Course 15) Subjects

Visit <https://sloanbid.mit.edu> for all of the details

First time logging in? Use your MIT ID as both your log in and password. Follow instructions on the site to change your password or retrieve lost passwords. Once logged in, make sure and check that your information (i.e. program of study and graduation date) is correct.

Institute-wide bidding for Sloan (Course 15) subjects*:
Opens 9:00 AM., Monday, May 13th, 2013 Closes 5:00 PM, Wednesday, May 29th, 2013

Section Swap Round for changing sections of pre-enrolled Sloan (Course 15) subjects:
Opens 9:00 AM, Thursday, July 25th, 2013 Closes 5:00 PM, Thursday, August 1st, 2013

Waitlist Round for closed Sloan (Course 15) subjects:
Opens 9:00 AM, Monday, August 5th, 2013 Closes 5:00 PM, Wednesday, August 19th, 2013

Please contact Geoff Miskinis (gmmiskin@mit.edu) if you have questions regarding Sloan (Course 15) Course Bidding.

All successful bids will appear on your Fall 2013 online registration form and will be posted on the bidding website as of Monday, August 5th.

** For 15.011, 15.016, 15.031, 15.279, 15.301, 15.305, 15.310, 15.411, 15.412, 15.501, and 15.516 , you can sign up directly through WebSIS starting May 1st. It is not necessary to bid for these courses.*



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SMBC, from Page 21



Solution to Crossword

from page 20

T	O	U	G	H	C	R	O	W	D	P	L	A	N
I	M	P	R	E	S	A	R	I	O	E	A	S	E
R	I	T	A	M	O	R	E	N	O	N	Y	S	E
E	T	O	N	N	E	O	R	O	U	S	E	D	
		O	A	K		A	M	U	L	E	T	S	
T	A	I	L	G	A	T	E	P	A	R	T	Y	
R	U	N	A	T		E	X	I	T		S	E	N
A	D	S		S	O	F	T	E	S		S	A	Y
P	I	T	A		B	L	O	C		A	C	O	R
		A	N	A	T	O	L	E		F	R	A	N
M	A	N	X	M	A	N		L	P	S			
A	C	T	I	I		S	M	U		E	L	B	A
C	U	T	E		N	A	T	A	T	O	R	I	U
E	T	A	T		E	L	E	M	E	N	T	A	R
D	E	N	Y		D	A	T	E	S	T	A	M	P

Solution to Sudoku

from page 21

1	9	6	5	2	3	8	4	7
8	3	2	9	7	4	6	1	5
4	7	5	1	8	6	9	2	3
9	6	1	7	4	5	2	3	8
2	5	3	6	9	8	1	7	4
7	8	4	2	3	1	5	6	9
6	4	9	3	5	2	7	8	1
5	1	8	4	6	7	3	9	2
3	2	7	8	1	9	4	5	6

Solution to Master
Techdoku

from page 21

8	2	1	3	6	4	5	7
6	8	7	1	4	2	3	5
1	3	2	4	7	5	6	8
2	4	3	5	8	6	7	1
3	5	4	6	1	7	8	2
5	7	6	8	3	1	2	4
4	6	5	7	2	8	1	3
7	1	8	2	5	3	4	6

Solution to Apprentice
Techdoku

from page 21

5	6	1	3	4	2
6	1	2	4	5	3
4	5	6	2	3	1
2	3	4	6	1	5
3	4	5	1	2	6
1	2	3	5	6	4

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MIT DanceTroupe — #DTMF

PHOTOS BY NICHOLAS CHORNAV: THE TECH

Members of MIT Dancetroupe perform during a dress rehearsal in little Kresge on Wednesday night. The spring DanceTroupe Show, #DTMF, ran through Sunday and featured styles ranging from hip hop to contemporary.

1. Cathy J. Cao '13 (center)
2. Nina Yang '15
3. Mariana Duran '13
4. Denise N. Neibloom '15
5. Kere U. Eke '15 and Aaron M. Okello '16



Men’s track places 8th in NEWMACs

ECAC Championships Saturday

By Charlotte Brackett
DAPER STAFF

MIT Men’s Track and Field wrapped up competition at the New England Outdoor Championships with an eighth place finish with 36.50 points on Saturday. The Engineers finished just ahead of New Hampshire, with 35 points. Southern Connecticut State came in first place with 159 points. To kick off the final day, Samuel G. Parker ’15 ran the 800m, coming in 14th place with a time of 1:53.43. In the next event, the 1500m, Justin L. Bullock ’14 came in 27th with a 4:11.95. After finishing in third place in the 400m Hurdles in prelims Friday, Michael S. Kaba ’16 moved onto finals, coming in second place with a time of 52.20, cutting over a second-and-a-half off his time. The MIT 4x100 relay was composed of Michael J. DuPlessis ’14, Kaba, Josh D. Duncavage ’13 and Tyler S. Singer-Clark ’14. The team came in second place with a time

of 41.93. The Southern Connecticut State relay crossed the line just two one-hundredths of a second ahead of the Engineers. The MIT 4x400 relay also finished in second place, finishing with a time of 3:12.42. The relay was made up of States Lee ’16, Kaba, Derek C. Barnes ’16 and Singer-Clark. Benjamin J. Schreck ’15 improved on his performance in the Pole Vault from Friday, finishing in third place with a vault of 15-05.00. Yida Gao ’13 also improved, coming in 11th when he cleared the bar in 14-11.00. To end the day, three Engineers competed in the Triple Jump. Carington Motley ’16 finished highest for MIT, coming in eighth place with a jump of 45-10.00. Classmates Arinze C. Okeke ’16 and Angel S. Echevarria ’16 finished in 13th and 15th place with jumps of 44-06.75 and 44-02.75 respectively. The Engineers will return to action next weekend for the ECAC Division III Championships, before gearing up for the NCAA Championships that will be held at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse the following weekend.

NEWMAC All-Conference

61 MIT athletes selected across 6 Spring sports

By Phil Hess
DAPER STAFF

A league-leading 61 athletes represented MIT on the 2013 New England Women’s and Men’s Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) Spring Academic All-Conference Team. The Engineers finished the year with a conference-high 146 selections, followed by WPI with 101. Honorees must have met the following criteria: earned a minimum GPA of 3.5/4.0 scale or 4.35/5.0 scale, achieved second year academic status at his or her institution, and been a member of a varsity team for the entire season. The NEWMAC consists of ten highly selective institutions committed to academic excellence: Babson College, Clark University, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College, Springfield College, Wellesley College, Wheaton College, WPI, and MIT. Spring sports sponsored by the NEWMAC are: Baseball, Women’s Lacrosse, Women’s Rowing, Softball, Men’s Tennis, and Men’s and Women’s Track and Field. WPI secured the second-highest number of honorees with 53, followed by Springfield (35), and Wellesley (22). The following is a list of MIT’s NEWMAC Academic All-Conference recipients:

- Women’s Lacrosse**
- Erica C. Du ’14
 - Laura Y. Lu ’14
 - Molly E. McShane ’13
 - Lyndsy A. Muri ’15
 - Meghan S. Wright ’13

- Men’s Tennis**
- A. Troy Astorino ’13
 - Vlad Firoiu ’14
 - Tymor C. Hamamsy ’13
 - Brian K. Oldfield ’13
 - Jeffrey M. Sperling ’15
 - Edwin M. Zhang ’14

- Women’s Track and Field**
- Kaitlin N. Allen ’14
 - Kali M. Benavides ’15
 - Marie N. Burkland ’13
 - Joanna K. Chen ’15
 - Margaret M. Coad ’15
 - Martina A. de Geus ’14
 - Marissa R. Engle ’15
 - Kayla Z. Harris ’15
 - Cindy Y. Huang ’15
 - Shivani A. Kaushal ’15
 - Abigail B. Klein ’14
 - Jaclyn A. Konopka ’14
 - Lauren B. Kuntz ’13
 - Dacie J. Manion ’15
 - Elaine D. McVay ’15
 - Melissa A. Showers ’13
 - Veronica Szklarzewski ’15
 - Alexandra B. Taylor ’14
 - Louise E. van den Heuvel ’14
 - Ashley R. Wheeler ’15

- Baseball**
- Hayden K. Cornwell ’15
 - Patrick E. Dayton ’14
 - Andrew R. Jeanguenat ’13
 - Kiel L. Jindra ’14
 - Max J. Ockner ’13
 - Ricardo J. Perez ’13
 - Jonathan E. Rea ’14
 - Parker A. Tew ’15
 - Henry Zhu ’13

- Softball**
- Leah Alpert ’13
 - Anna R. Christensen ’13
 - Karly E. McLaughlin ’15

- Men’s Track and Field**
- Nicholas A. Diamantoni ’15
 - Matthew D. Falk ’12
 - Jared M. Forman ’13
 - Kristoffer M. Fray ’15
 - Yida Gao ’13
 - Kyle J. Hannon ’13
 - Dominique S. Hoskin ’15
 - Matthew G. Jordan ’15
 - Jacob M. Jurewicz ’14
 - Jay P. McKenna ’14
 - Jordan P. Mizerak ’14
 - Samuel G. Parker ’15
 - Harry A. Rein ’15
 - Daniel J. Ronde ’13
 - Benjamin J. Schreck ’15
 - Tyler S. Singer-Clark ’14
 - John B. Thomas ’15
 - Cyrus Vafadari ’12



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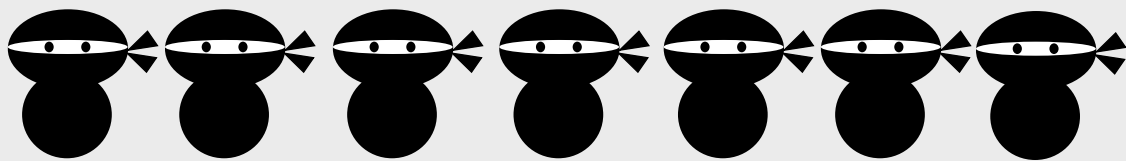


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